

Graff

ters Department of Arizona,

Prescott, August 2 1870.

The Newberry Library
The Everett D. Graff Collection
of Western Americana

4269

The following summary of successful operations against the Indians in this Department, during the past three months, is published for general information. Other scouts have been made, creditable alike to officers and men engaged, but not having encountered Indians, no results other than scouting and acquiring a topographical knowledge of the country having been obtained, special mention of them is not made.

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel *G. B. Sanford*, left Camp McDowell, A. T., in the latter part of April, with an expedition consisting of Troops "E," 1st Cavalry, Lieutenant *Sherman*; "B," 3d Cavalry, Captain *Meinhold*, and Lieutenant *Smith*; Company "A," 21st Infantry, Brevet-Major *Collins*,—5 officers and 80 men, and moved to Pinal Creek, where he established a scouting camp. The expedition remained out 77 days, and marched over 500 miles. The following is a brief summary of the principal events:—

The command moved down Tonto Creek and up the Rio Salado and crossed to the Pinal Creek, where a large field of wheat was discovered and destroyed. On the 30th of April Brevet-Major *Collins* was detached with a portion of the command, consisting of Second Lieutenant *Smith*, 3d Cavalry, and 25 men from "E" troop, 1st Cavalry; 25 men from "B" troop, 3d Cavalry, and 3 men of Company "A," 21st Infantry, with citizen *Murphy* as guide. Moving in an easterly direction and striking a trail, he followed it for 8 miles, and came on a rancharia where large quantities of mescal, seeds, etc., were found and destroyed, the Indians having abandoned it but a few hours before its discovery. Pushing on about 8 miles further, he discovered the Indians, whom he charged, and succeeded in killing 9, and capturing 4, destroying large quantities of mescal, baskets, seeds, etc. In returning to where he struck the first rancharia, he discovered three Indians, and succeeded in killing two, and returned to camp (on Pinal Creek) the next day, having been out twenty-four hours, marching 45 miles, and succeeding in killing 11 Indians and capturing 4, besides destroying a large amount of property of great value to the Indians. Major *Collins* makes special mention of Lieutenant *Smith*, 3d Cavalry, and Sergeant *Samuel Ferguson*, Troop "E," 1st Cavalry.

The horses of "B" troop, 3d Cavalry, being in bad condition, and the Infantry having been constantly marching, Colonel *Sanford* replaced "B" troop, with "E" troop, 3d Cavalry, Captain *Sutorius*, and Company "A," with "G," of the 21st Infantry, Lieutenant *J. M. Ross*; 110 men in all (including "E" troop, 1st Cavalry, which was not relieved).

On the 24th, near Cannon Creek, for the purpose of moving with

greater rapidity, the pack-train was placed in a secure position, and left in charge of Lieutenant *Ross*, with a guard of 50 men. Colonel *Sanford* started at two o'clock A.M. on the 23d with a balance of command, and moved in an easterly direction towards the Black Mesa. About daylight on crossing the Arroyo Colorado, evidences were discovered of the Apaches being present in large numbers; also corn fields etc. Just before sunrise the command entered a large fertile valley, bordering a beautiful stream of water, and almost immediately discovered a rancheria, and then others. The command was at once deployed and ordered to charge, "which they did with a will." Rancherias were found in various directions, and the men scattered in pursuit. About 10 A.M. the command was re-united, when 21 Indians were found to have been killed, and 12 prisoners taken; also three horses and three mules captured; large quantities of articles valuable to Indians were destroyed. The valley for miles was planted with corn. The command then returned, scouting through Turkey Valley, crossing Sombrero Butte, Salt River, Rio Pinto and Tonto Creek. The result of the expedition being as follows:—

Apaches killed,.....33. Captured,.....16.

Animals captured, Horses, ... 3. Mules, ... 3. besides having destroyed large fields of wheat and corn, and numerous stores of value to the Indians. In the rancherias on the Chevecon the scalp of a white man was found, and numerous articles which had been taken from citizens and soldiers.

Colonel *Sanford* reports that all the men engaged conducted themselves in a highly creditable manner, and mentions the following as having come specially under his notice:

First Sergeant <i>Michael Hawley</i> ,	" E " Troop, 1st Cavalry.
Sergeant <i>Samuel Ferguson</i> ,	" " "
" <i>John Lindsey</i> ,	" " "
" <i>Jeremiah Kane</i> ,	" " "
" <i>John Brown</i> ,	" " "
Corporal <i>Green M. Smith</i> ,	" " "
" <i>William Graves</i> ,	" " "
" <i>Charles Rhodes</i> ,	" " "
Trumpeter <i>George Webber</i> ,	" " "
Private <i>Timothy Sullivan</i> ,	" " "
" <i>George Smith</i> ,	" " "

First Sergeant <i>Charles Brown</i> ,	" E " Troop, 3d Cavalry.
Sergeant <i>Jeremiah Foley</i> ,	" " "
" <i>George W. Beekman</i> ,	" " "
" <i>William Roberts</i> ,	" " "
" <i>Hugh McEwen</i> ,	" " "
Corporal <i>Martin Hart</i> ,	" " "
" <i>Henry Bowers</i> ,	" " "
" <i>John McNalley</i> ,	" " "
" <i>Isaac Stephenson</i> ,	" " "

And Private *Michael Sheehan*, Company "A," 21st Infantry.

On the 29th of May, Lieutenant *Cushing*, 3d Cavalry, with Lieutenant *Smith*, 3d Cavalry, 14 men of "B," and 20 men of "F," troops, 3d Cavalry, and 30 men of "K" troop 1st Cavalry, started in pursuit of a band of Indians who had attacked and captured a wagon train, and killed some citizens near Canon del Oro, on the road between Tucson and Camp Grant. Having discovered the trail, it was fol-

lowed for a distance of about 170 miles, when in the afternoon of the 4th of June, having reached the top of the Apache Mountains, discovering signs of being in their vicinity, the command was withdrawn down the eastern slope of the mountains into camp, without having been discovered. At midnight the command moved towards the point where the camp fires were seen, crossing the summit and moving down the western slope, within about three miles of the rancheria, where the command was divided, Lieutenant *Cushing* leading the direct attack, and Lieutenant *Smith* moving on the flank. At daylight on the morning of the 5th, the attack was made; in thirty minutes the rancheria was struck by Lieutenant *Cushing's* party; the Indians taken by surprise, ran down a canon where they were met by Lieutenant *Smith* and his party, and many killed. "The Indian dead laid scattered in every direction, thirty (30) being counted in the immediate vicinity, many more however, were reported as killed by the men and the two guides." "From the rugged nature of the ground where the rancheria was situated, it is more than probable that many Indians were killed which were not seen, by the commanding officer." Large quantities of prepared mescal, and property taken from the captured train was destroyed, also two mules recaptured, the others having been killed.

Lieutenant *Cushing*, reports that the men behaved throughout in a manner worthy of the highest commendation, particularly recommending to the attention of the Department Commander Sergeants *Warfield*, of the 3d Cavalry, and *Whelden*, of the 1st Cavalry, and Guides *Manuel*, and *Oscar Hutton*.

These expeditions were made pursuant to instructions from Colonel *Cogswell*, commanding Sub-District of southern Arizona, and he represents them as having been in every way entirely satisfactory, and concurs in the several recommendations of the senior officers commanding the expeditions.

On the 3d of June, Lieutenant *Graham*, with 14 men of "M," Troop, 3d Cavalry, started in pursuit of a band of Indians, who had driven off a herd of 59 cattle, from the immediate vicinity of Fort Whipple. Lieutenant *Graham*, started without waiting to saddle, and pushed them to such an extent that they abandoned the herd (except three which they had killed), which he recovered, and killed two Indians.

An expedition under the command of Captain *Wm. Hawley*, 3d Cavalry, consisting of Lieutenant *Cradlebaugh*, 3d Cavalry, Acting Assistant Surgeon *Soule*, and (55) fifty five enlisted men of Troops "A," "C," "L," and "M," 3d Cavalry, left Camp Verde on the 27th of May, 1870, under instructions to locate a practicable wagon road from Camp Verde to the new post in the White Mountains, and to the mouth of Cottonwood Fork, on the Colorado Chiquito. Captain *Hawley*, returned on the 27th of June, having been successful in finding a practicable road and to both points indicated. In one of several engagements with the Indians, the command killed one(1) and captured (7) seven Indians, having (1) one Sergeant and (2) two privates wounded in the attack.

The Department Commander conveys his thanks to the officers and men engaged in the above operations for the energy and perseverance

displayed. By such exertion, they not only reflect credit on themselves, but on the Regiments to which they belong.

BY COMMAND OF BREVET MAJOR-GENERAL STONEMAN:

E. W. STONE,

Brevet Lieutenant-Colonel, U. S. A.,

Acting Assistant Adjutant General.

OFFICIAL:

Bvt. Lieut.-Col., U. S. A.

A. A. A. G.